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Cedarville University Anticipates Adding Civil Engineering

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Cedarville University's School of Engineering and Computer Science will introduce a new civil engineering major for the 2018-2019 school year, pending approval by the Higher Education Commission.

Students pursuing this major will earn a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (B.S.C.E.) degree that includes Cedarville's general education component and the Bible minor. In their first two years, civil engineering students will take many of the same courses as mechanical engineering students, but will begin civil engineering-specific coursework in their third year.

"Our faculty sensed the need for a civil engineering program when we started to do missions work in Africa and South America," said Robert Chasnov, dean of the school of engineering and computer science. "Third world countries need help with their water systems and energy development, which is civil engineering work; that's the reason we've been pushing for this major."

The school of engineering and computer science's faculty developed the major by looking at other schools' programs to compose course descriptions, syllabi and the general frame of the major.

Cedarville trustees approved the new major in January, and faculty turned in documentation to the Ohio Department of Higher Education, where it was approved. Higher Learning Commission approval is the final step.

The school of engineering and computer science hopes this addition will make Cedarville even more competitive with other engineering schools while providing more professional education options for students.

"We have been highly competitive already, as shown by the increase in numbers with this year's incoming students, but the number of schools with a civil engineering major as well as a Christian focus is very small," said Chasnov. "Most just offer a Bachelor of Science in Engineering, but our program will offer a B.S.C.E., like the degree students could get at big public schools."

Civil engineering will be the fifth major in Cedarville's School of Engineering and Computer Science. Currently, students can pursue computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering.

If approved by the Higher Learning Commission, the new program will begin accepting students for fall semester 2018.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,963 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.